

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2014

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 94**

**Introduced by Senator Evans**

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Chesbro)

**(Coauthors: Senators Cannella, Corbett, Padilla, and Wolk)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Eggman, Williams, and Yamada)

March 6, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 94—Relative to wineries.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 94, as amended, Evans. “California Wines: Down to Earth” month.

This measure would proclaim April 2014 as the “California Wines: Down to Earth” month, to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California wineries and winegrape growers.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Sustainability is a vital part of the long-term future  
2 of California wine, which contributes an estimated \$61.5 billion  
3 in annual economic impact to California’s economy; and  
4 WHEREAS, The Wine Institute and the California Association  
5 of ~~Wine Grape~~ *Winegrape* Growers created the California Code  
6 of Sustainable Winegrowing workbook more than a decade ago,  
7 with the third edition released in January 2013, and it has since  
8 been used by vineyards and wineries representing three quarters  
9 of California’s ~~wine-grape~~ *winegrape* acreage and production to  
10 self-assess operations; and

1 WHEREAS, The California Code of Sustainable Winegrowing  
2 Program, now managed by the California Sustainable Winegrowing  
3 Alliance, is comprised of more than 200 best practices for  
4 vineyards and wineries that benefit the environment, employees,  
5 neighbors, and high-quality wine; and

6 WHEREAS, Other state and regional sustainability programs,  
7 such as Lodi Rules, Sustainability in Practice (SIP), Napa Green,  
8 Fish Friendly Farming, the Green Business Program, and others,  
9 all play an important role in the California wine communities'  
10 efforts to grow grapes and produce wine in a manner that is  
11 environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially  
12 equitable; and

13 WHEREAS, Growing participation in sustainable organic, and  
14 biodynamic, certification programs further conveys California  
15 vintners' and growers' adherence to high standards, desire for  
16 transparency, and dedication to continuous improvement; and

17 WHEREAS, California's wine community conserves water,  
18 energy, and other natural resources, protects habitat, employee  
19 welfare, and air, water, and soil quality, and promotes the use of  
20 natural pest management and alternative energy and fuels; and

21 WHEREAS, California's 3,800 wineries and 4,600 ~~wine-grape~~  
22 *winegrape* growers are primarily family businesses, with a  
23 long-term commitment to the health and vitality of their  
24 communities, and to preserving the land for future generations;  
25 and

26 WHEREAS, California's *winegrape* growers and vintners  
27 commitment to sustainability has been documented in a newly  
28 published book, *Down to Earth, A Seasonable Tour of Sustainable*  
29 *Winegrowing in California*; now, therefore, be it

30 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
31 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims April 2014 as  
32 the time to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California  
33 wineries and winegrape growers with the theme, "California Wines:  
34 Down to Earth" month, timed to Earth Day on April 22nd; and be  
35 it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
37 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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